



Rep. Ron Stephens
District 164

Biography

State Representative Ron Stephens (R-Savannah) represents the 164th District in the Georgia House of Representatives, where he has served for 24 years. Rep. Stephens is the chairman of the House Economic Development & Tourism Committee. He is also a member of the Appropriations, Rules and Ways and Means committees.

Rep. Stephens is a graduate of Armstrong State & Mercer University with a degree in Pharmacy. He and his wife, Janice, have two daughters, Karen and Ashlin, two grandsons, Walker Brown and James "Beau" Dukes, IV, and one granddaughter, Ivey. The Stephens are members of Richmond Hill Baptist Church.

Rep. Stephens has spent more than 40 years as a pharmacist. Before being elected to the House, Rep. Stephens served as a city councilman in Garden City. Proven to be a consensus builder and a member who can reach across party lines, Rep. Stephens was previously selected as the vice-chair of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and as a member of the Economic Development subcommittee under a democratic majority and leadership.

After serving 17 years in the state House, Rep. Stephens was selected by Speaker David Ralston (R-Blue Ridge) as the chair of the Economic Development & Tourism Committee. He has also served on the House Appropriations Committee for more 20 years.

Rep. Stephens is the co-author of the first floating homestead exemption in Georgia. House Bill 350 effectively freezes property taxes for the homeowner. The exemption now applies in more than 70 taxing districts in the state, and today, House Bill 350 is known as the "Stephens-Day Bill."

Rep. Stephens has also received the following awards and accolades:

- 2021 ACCG Legislator of the Year
- 2020 Georgia Screen Entertainment Friend of Film Award
- 2019 Marie Backus McCaughey Award for Childhood Philanthropy, Matthew Rearden Center for Autism
- 2019 Broadband Leader Award
- 2019 Good Samaritan Award (Kirk Healing Center)

- 2018 Georgia Hospital Association Legislator of the Year
- 2017 Armstrong University Hero
- 2017 House Rural Development Council, ex-officio member
- 2017 Southern Growth Policies Board, member
- 2016 Distinguished Alumni, Armstrong State University
- 2016 J.C. Lewis Outstanding Republican of the Year
- 2015 Bowl of Hygeia Award for Outstanding Practicing Pharmacist
- 2015 Georgia Hospitality Champion
- 2015 GWC Clean Water Champion
- 2015 Georgia Arts Network Advocate Award
- 2013 Legislator of the Year from the Georgia Rural Health Association
- 2012 The Charitable Care Network Chairman's Award
- 2012 The Shooting Star Award, from Georgia Production Partnership
- 2008 Legislator of the Year by the Governor's Tourism Conference
- 2008 Star of Life Legislative Award Georgia Emergency Medical Services
- 2007 Legislator of the Year Award GHPA (Public Health Departments)
- 2006 Herb & Franklin Traub Visionary Award, Savannah Area Tourism Leadership Council
- 2006 Representative of the Year Award, Georgia Retail Association
- 2005 Hospital Association Legislator of the Year
- 2004 Champion of Georgia Cities Award by Georgia Municipal Association
- 2004 Legislator of the Year Award Georgia Pharmacy Association
- 2003 State Tourism Champion of the Year Tourism Development Alliance of Georgia
- 2002 Champion of Georgia Cities Award by Georgia Municipal Association
- 2002 Legislator of the Year Award Association County Commissioners of Georgia
- 1999 Senior Citizen's, Inc. Legislator of the Year Award Carl Henderson Award from Mercer University